(c) if so, the steps being taken to consider the welfare of the workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) According to 1991 Census, 20839 women workers (including marginal workers) are engaged in the processing, canning and preserving of fish, crustacea and similar foods.

(b) and (c) The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 and the Rules framed thereunder provide for various welfare and health measures for such workers. Cases of violation of the provisions of above Act and Rules are dealt with suitably by the appropriate Governments.

Additionally, the Marine Products Export Development Authority also assist the seafood processors to upgrade their facilities to achieve equivalency with the European and US standards, by which the workers get better facilities in the processing plants.

Rehabilitation of Child Labour

2407. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Governments are not submitting/furnishing the status reports on the Project meant for rehabilitation of child labour;

(b) whether monitoring is being conducted by the Ministry;

(c) whether Government have reminded any allegations regarding non-implementation of the programmes in Sambhalpur District, Orissa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) The child labour projects have been furnishing progress reports periodically, for the purpose of monitoring of the project activities. Apart from this, periodical reviews by the Central and State Government are being carried out to assess the progress in the rehabilitation programme.

(c) and (d) Some shortcomings like reported delay in the payment of stipend and lack of provision of mid day meal in the schools run under National Child Labour Project, Sambalpur, Orissa have been brought to the notice of Government. The State Government of Orissa has already been addressed on this regard.

Proposal to amend the Labour Laws

2408. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to amend various labour laws in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the views of the State Governments concerned, Ministries of the Central Government and specialised institutes and organisations will be taken in the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (e) Review and updation of Labour Laws is a continuous process and amendments/ fresh legislation are made depending on the result of the review. A number of labour laws have been enacted from time to time to address various aspects of labour encompassing a vast span of subjects which include Freedom of Association and Trade Unions Rights, Conditions of work, Minimum Wages, Social Security, Labour relations, migrant workers, employment of children etc.

There is always a need to review comprehensively the labour laws so as to ensure consistency of labour laws with the general changes taking place in the economic and social policies and also to provide for greater welfare of the workers. The views of related Ministries and other concerned are considered before